

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Damien Eugene Brooks, |) | No. CV 11-1902-PHX-JAT (DKD) |
| |) | |
| Plaintiff, |) | ORDER |
| |) | |
| vs. |) | |
| |) | |
| Deputy Warden K. Curran, et al., |) | |
| |) | |
| Defendants. |) | |

I. Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* and Filing Fee

Plaintiff's Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* will be granted. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a). Plaintiff must pay the statutory filing fee of \$350.00. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). The Court will not assess an initial partial filing fee. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). The statutory fee will be collected monthly in payments of 20% of the previous month's income each time the amount in the account exceeds \$10.00. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(2). The Court will enter a separate Order requiring the appropriate government agency to collect and forward the fees according to the statutory formula.

II. Statutory Screening of Prisoner Complaints

The Court is required to screen complaints brought by prisoners seeking relief against a governmental entity or an officer or an employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C.

1 § 1915A(a). The Court must dismiss a complaint or portion thereof if a plaintiff has raised
2 claims that are legally frivolous or malicious, that fail to state a claim upon which relief may
3 be granted, or that seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief.
4 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1), (2).

5 A pleading must contain a “short and plain statement of the claim *showing* that the
6 pleader is entitled to relief.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a)(2) (emphasis added). While Rule 8 does not
7 demand detailed factual allegations, “it demands more than an unadorned, the-defendant-
8 unlawfully-harmed-me accusation.” Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 129 S. Ct. 1937, 1949 (2009).
9 “Threadbare recitals of the elements of a cause of action, supported by mere conclusory
10 statements, do not suffice.” Id.

11 “[A] complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to ‘state a
12 claim to relief that is plausible on its face.’” Id. (quoting Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly,
13 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)). A claim is plausible “when the plaintiff pleads factual content
14 that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the
15 misconduct alleged.” Id. “Determining whether a complaint states a plausible claim for
16 relief [is] . . . a context-specific task that requires the reviewing court to draw on its judicial
17 experience and common sense.” Id. at 1950. Thus, although a plaintiff’s specific factual
18 allegations may be consistent with a constitutional claim, a court must assess whether there
19 are other “more likely explanations” for a defendant’s conduct. Id. at 1951.

20 But as the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has instructed, courts
21 must “continue to construe *pro se* filings liberally.” Hebbe v. Pliler, 627 F.3d 338, 342 (9th
22 Cir. 2010). A “complaint [filed by a *pro se* prisoner] ‘must be held to less stringent standards
23 than formal pleadings drafted by lawyers.’” Id. (quoting Erickson v. Pardus, 551 U.S. 89,
24 94 (2007) (*per curiam*)).

25 If the Court determines that a pleading could be cured by the allegation of other facts,
26 a *pro se* litigant is entitled to an opportunity to amend a complaint before dismissal of the
27 action. See Lopez v. Smith, 203 F.3d 1122, 1127-29 (9th Cir. 2000) (*en banc*). The Court
28 should not, however, advise the litigant how to cure the defects. This type of advice “would

1 undermine district judges' role as impartial decisionmakers." Pliler v. Ford, 542 U.S. 225,
2 231 (2004); see also Lopez, 203 F.3d at 1131 n.13 (declining to decide whether the court was
3 required to inform a litigant of deficiencies). The Court will dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint
4 for failure to state a claim, but because the Complaint may possibly be saved by amendment,
5 will dismiss the Complaint with leave to amend.

6 **III. Complaint**

7 Plaintiff alleges one count for threat to safety or failure to protect. Plaintiff sues the
8 following current or former employees of the Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC):
9 SMU I Deputy Warden K. Curran; Sergeant Yarberry; Special Services Unit (SSU)
10 Corrections Officer (CO) II Madsen; SSU Sergeant Moreno; CO IVs T. Pinney and M.
11 Madrid; and CO III Pinson. Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief.

12 **IV. Failure to State a Claim**

13 To state a claim under § 1983, a plaintiff must allege facts supporting that (1) the
14 conduct about which he complains was committed by a person acting under the color of state
15 law and (2) the conduct deprived him of a federal constitutional or statutory right. Wood v.
16 Ostrander, 879 F.2d 583, 587 (9th Cir. 1989). In addition, to state a valid constitutional
17 claim, a plaintiff must allege that he suffered a specific injury as a result of the conduct of
18 a particular defendant and he must allege an affirmative link between the injury and the
19 conduct of that defendant. Rizzo v. Goode, 423 U.S. 362, 371-72, 377 (1976).

20 Further, to state a claim against a defendant, a "plaintiff must allege facts, not simply
21 conclusions, that show that an individual was personally involved in the deprivation of his
22 civil rights." Barren v. Harrington, 152 F.3d 1193, 1194 (9th Cir. 1998). For an individual
23 to be liable in his official capacity, a plaintiff must allege that the official acted as a result of
24 a policy, practice, or custom or that the official promulgated a policy, practice or custom
25 resulting in the violation. See Cortez v. County of Los Angeles, 294 F.3d 1186, 1188 (9th
26 Cir. 2001). In addition, there is no *respondeat superior* liability under § 1983, so a
27 defendant's position as the supervisor of someone who allegedly violated a plaintiff's
28 constitutional rights does not make him liable. Monell v. Dep't of Soc.Servs., 436 U.S. 658,

691 (1978); Taylor, 880 F.2d at 1045. A supervisor in his individual capacity, “is only liable for constitutional violations of his subordinates if the supervisor participated in or directed the violations, or knew of the violations and failed to act to prevent them.” Taylor, 880 F.2d at 1045.

Plaintiff asserts a claim for threat to safety or failure to protect. To state a claim under § 1983 for failure to protect or threats to safety, an inmate must allege facts to support that he was incarcerated under conditions posing a substantial risk of harm and that prison officials were “deliberately indifferent” to those risks. Farmer v. Brennan, 511 U.S. 825, 832-33 (1994). To adequately allege deliberate indifference, a plaintiff must allege facts to support that a defendant knew of, but disregarded, an excessive risk to inmate safety. Id. at 837. That is, “the official must both [have been] aware of facts from which the inference could be drawn that a substantial risk of serious harm exist[ed], and he must also [have] draw[n] the inference.” Id.

Plaintiff alleges the following facts: He was housed in a two-bunk cell in SMU I. Although unclear, Plaintiff was apparently housed alone in that cell. On August 1, 2011, Plaintiff submitted an inmate letter to Defendant Yarberry telling her that his life was in danger, he did not feel that being double-bunked in maximum security was appropriate, and asking her what could be done. On August 2, 2011, Plaintiff submitted an inmate letter to Defendant Pinney stating that his life was endangered by being housed in a double-bunk cell in maximum security, and asking what could be done. On August 8, 2011, Plaintiff spoke to Defendant Madsen. Plaintiff told Madsen that a debriefed Security Threat Group (STG) protective custody inmate had told Plaintiff that Plaintiff’s name was on a “hit” list of the New Mexican Mafia (or EME), that he felt his life was in danger in his current cell and asked what could be done. Plaintiff states that Madsen did not respond. The same day, Plaintiff sent an inmate letter to Defendant Madrid in which Plaintiff said that a debriefed STG protective custody inmate named Ceja had told Plaintiff that Ceja remembered seeing

1 Plaintiff's name on a hit list of the New Mexican Mafia.¹ Plaintiff further stated that he did
2 not believe it was appropriate for him to be double-bunked in maximum security or held in
3 a General Population (GP) unit. On August 10, 2011, Plaintiff submitted an informal
4 grievance. On August 11, 2011, Plaintiff "kited" Defendant Moreno and informed him that
5 there was hit on his life according to a debriefed STG protective custody inmate and that
6 Plaintiff felt that his life was in danger in a double-bunk cell in maximum custody. On
7 August 15, 2011, Plaintiff submitted an inmate letter to Defendant Curran telling him the
8 same thing and asking what could be done. Plaintiff did not receive responses to any of his
9 inmate letters.

10 On August 23, 2011, Plaintiff submitted an emergency grievance to Defendant Pinson
11 stating there was a hit on his life based on what Ceja had told Plaintiff, i.e., that there was a
12 hit on his life. Plaintiff asked to be moved to a single person cell or be placed in protective
13 custody (PC). The next day, Pinson returned Plaintiff's grievance unprocessed because his
14 grievance was not an emergency because he was then celled alone. Apparently another
15 inmate was moved to Plaintiff's cell on August 26. Plaintiff appealed the return of his
16 emergency grievance, but Pinson returned the appeal unprocessed telling him that he could
17 not appeal an unprocessed grievance. On September 1, 2011, Plaintiff submitted a formal
18 grievance to Warden Trujillo, but Pinson intercepted the appeal and returned it unprocessed
19 because Plaintiff had failed to submit his informal resolution with the appeal.

20 To the extent that Plaintiff complains about the handling of his inmate letters,
21 grievances, and grievance appeals, Plaintiff fails to state a claim. Where a defendant's only
22 involvement in allegedly unconstitutional conduct is the denial of administrative grievances,
23 the failure to intervene on a prisoner's behalf to remedy the alleged unconstitutional behavior
24 does not amount to active unconstitutional behavior for purposes of § 1983. Shehee v.
25 Luttrell, 199 F.3d 295, 300 (6th Cir. 1999); accord Mintun v. Blades, No. CV-06-139, 2008

26
27
28 ¹ Plaintiff repeatedly refers to being documented "as running wit the Mexican Mafia
under Trigger." (See e.g., Doc. 1 at 3A.) Plaintiff fails to explain what that means.

1 WL 711636, at *7 (D. Idaho Mar. 14, 2008); Stocker v. Warden, No. 1:07-CV-00589, 2009
2 WL 981323, at *10 (E.D. Cal. Apr. 13, 2009).

3 Plaintiff otherwise fails to allege facts to support that his conditions of confinement
4 pose a *substantial* threat to his safety or facts to support that any Defendant knows of such
5 facts but has failed to act. Plaintiff alleges that Inmate Ceja told him that he (Ceja)
6 remembered at some point seeing Plaintiff's name on a New Mexican Mafia hit list. Plaintiff
7 also alleges that he feels unsafe in a two-bunk cell in a maximum custody. While Plaintiff
8 asserts that EME, and other prison gangs, want to kill him, he does not allege reasons who
9 or why prison gangs or individual inmates have targeted him. More generally, Plaintiff fails
10 to allege facts to support that being housed in maximum security poses a *substantial* risk to
11 his life and specifically how. For example, Plaintiff does not allege that he is celled with
12 STG member or facts to support that an STG member could assault him in his current
13 housing situation. In addition, Plaintiff does not allege facts to support that any Defendant
14 knew that housing Plaintiff in maximum security posed a *substantial* risk to Plaintiff's safety
15 but failed to act to alleviate the risk. For these reasons, Plaintiff fails to state a claim.

16 **V. Leave to Amend**

17 For the foregoing reasons, Plaintiff's Complaint will be dismissed for failure to state
18 a claim upon which relief may be granted. Within 30 days, Plaintiff may submit a first
19 amended complaint to cure the deficiencies outlined above. The Clerk of Court will mail
20 Plaintiff a court-approved form to use for filing a first amended complaint. If Plaintiff fails
21 to use the court-approved form, the Court may strike the amended complaint and dismiss this
22 action without further notice to Plaintiff.

23 Plaintiff must clearly designate on the face of the document that it is the "First
24 Amended Complaint." The first amended complaint must be retyped or rewritten in its
25 entirety on the court-approved form and may not incorporate any part of the original
26 Complaint by reference. Plaintiff may include only one claim per count.

27 A first amended complaint supersedes the original complaint. Ferdik v. Bonzelet, 963
28 F.2d 1258, 1262 (9th Cir. 1992); Hal Roach Studios v. Richard Feiner & Co., 896 F.2d 1542,

1 1546 (9th Cir. 1990). After amendment, the Court will treat an original complaint as
2 nonexistent. Ferdik, 963 F.2d at 1262. Any cause of action that was raised in the original
3 complaint is waived if it is not raised in a first amended complaint. King v. Atiyeh, 814 F.2d
4 565, 567 (9th Cir. 1987).

5 **VI. Warnings**

6 **A. Release**

7 Plaintiff must pay the unpaid balance of the filing fee within 120 days of his release.
8 Also, within 30 days of his release, he must either (1) notify the Court that he intends to pay
9 the balance or (2) show good cause, in writing, why he cannot. Failure to comply may result
10 in dismissal of this action.

11 **B. Address Changes**

12 Plaintiff must file and serve a notice of a change of address in accordance with Rule
13 83.3(d) of the Local Rules of Civil Procedure. Plaintiff must not include a motion for other
14 relief with a notice of change of address. Failure to comply may result in dismissal of this
15 action.

16 **C. Copies**

17 Plaintiff must submit an additional copy of every filing for use by the Court. See
18 LRCiv 5.4. Failure to comply may result in the filing being stricken without further notice
19 to Plaintiff.

20 **D. Possible “Strike”**

21 Because the Complaint has been dismissed for failure to state a claim, if Plaintiff fails
22 to file an amended complaint correcting the deficiencies identified in this Order, the
23 dismissal may count as a “strike” under the “3-strikes” provision of 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).
24 Under the 3-strikes provision, a prisoner may not bring a civil action or appeal a civil
25 judgment *in forma pauperis* under 28 U.S.C. § 1915 “if the prisoner has, on 3 or more prior
26 occasions, while incarcerated or detained in any facility, brought an action or appeal in a
27 court of the United States that was dismissed on the grounds that it is frivolous, malicious,
28

1 or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, unless the prisoner is under
2 imminent danger of serious physical injury.” 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

3 **E. Possible Dismissal**

4 If Plaintiff fails to timely comply with every provision of this Order, including these
5 warnings, the Court may dismiss this action without further notice. See Ferdik, 963 F.2d at
6 1260-61 (a district court may dismiss an action for failure to comply with any order of the
7 Court).

8 **IT IS ORDERED:**

9 (1) Plaintiff’s Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* is **granted**. (Doc. 2.)

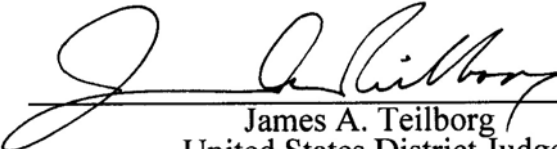
10 (2) As required by the accompanying Order to the appropriate government agency,
11 Plaintiff must pay the \$350.00 filing fee and is not assessed an initial partial filing fee.

12 (3) The Complaint is **dismissed** for failure to state a claim. (Doc. 1.) Plaintiff has
13 **30 days** from the date this Order is filed to file a first amended complaint in compliance with
14 this Order.

15 (4) If Plaintiff fails to file an amended complaint within 30 days, the Clerk of
16 Court must, without further notice, enter a judgment of dismissal of this action with prejudice
17 that states that the dismissal may count as a “strike” under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

18 (5) The Clerk of Court must mail Plaintiff a court-approved form for filing a civil
19 rights complaint by a prisoner.

20 DATED this 14th day of November, 2011.

21
22
23 
24 James A. Teilborg
United States District Judge
25
26
27
28

**Instructions for a Prisoner Filing a Civil Rights Complaint
in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona**

1. Who May Use This Form. The civil rights complaint form is designed to help incarcerated persons prepare a complaint seeking relief for a violation of their federal civil rights. These complaints typically concern, but are not limited to, conditions of confinement. **This form should not be used to challenge your conviction or sentence.** If you want to challenge a state conviction or sentence, you should file a petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 for a writ of habeas corpus by a person in state custody. If you want to challenge a federal conviction or sentence, you should file a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 to vacate sentence in the federal court that entered the judgment.
2. The Form. **Local Rule of Civil Procedure (LRCiv) 3.4(a) provides that complaints by incarcerated persons must be filed on the court-approved form.** The form must be typed or neatly handwritten. The form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. All questions must be answered clearly and concisely in the appropriate space on the form. If needed, you may attach additional pages, **but no more than fifteen additional pages**, of standard letter-sized paper. You must identify which part of the complaint is being continued and number all pages. If you do not fill out the form properly, you will be asked to submit additional or corrected information, which may delay the processing of your action. You do not need to cite law.
3. Your Signature. You must tell the truth and sign the form. If you make a false statement of a material fact, you may be prosecuted for perjury.
4. The Filing Fee. The filing fee for this action is \$350.00. If you are unable to immediately pay the filing fee, you may request leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. Please review the “Information for Prisoners Seeking Leave to Proceed with a (Non-Habeas) Civil Action in Federal Court *In Forma Pauperis* Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915” for additional instructions.
5. Original and Judge’s Copy. You must send an **original plus one copy** of your complaint and of any other documents submitted to the Court. You must send one additional copy to the Court if you wish to have a file-stamped copy of the document returned to you. All copies must be identical to the original. Copies may be legibly handwritten.
6. Where to File. You should file your complaint in the division **where you were confined when your rights were allegedly violated.** See LRCiv 5.1(a) and 77.1(a). If you were confined in Maricopa, Pinal, Yuma, La Paz, or Gila County, file in the Phoenix Division. If you were confined in Apache, Navajo, Coconino, Mohave, or Yavapai County, file in the Prescott Division. If you were confined in Pima, Cochise, Santa Cruz, Graham, or Greenlee County, file in the Tucson Division. **Mail the original and one copy of the complaint with the \$350 filing fee or the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* to:**

Phoenix & Prescott Divisions:
U.S. District Court Clerk
U.S. Courthouse, Suite 130
401 West Washington Street, SPC 10
Phoenix, Arizona 85003-2119

OR

Tucson Division:
U.S. District Court Clerk
U.S. Courthouse, Suite 1500
405 West Congress Street
Tucson, Arizona 85701-5010

7. Change of Address. You must immediately notify the Court and the defendants in writing of any change in your mailing address. **Failure to notify the Court of any change in your mailing address may result in the dismissal of your case.**

8. Certificate of Service. You must furnish the defendants with a copy of any document you submit to the Court (except the initial complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*). Each original document (except the initial complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*) must include a certificate of service on the last page of the document stating the date a copy of the document was mailed to the defendants and the address to which it was mailed. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(a), (d). Any document received by the Court that does not include a certificate of service may be stricken. A certificate of service should be in the following form:

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing document was mailed
this _____ (month, day, year) to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Attorney for Defendant(s)

(Signature)

9. Amended Complaint. If you need to change any of the information in the initial complaint, you must file an amended complaint. The amended complaint must be written on the court-approved civil rights complaint form. You may file one amended complaint without leave (permission) of Court before any defendant has answered your original complaint. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a). After any defendant has filed an answer, you must file a motion for leave to amend and lodge (submit) a proposed amended complaint. LRCiv 15.1. In addition, an amended complaint may not incorporate by reference any part of your prior complaint. LRCiv 15.1(a)(2). **Any allegations or defendants not included in the amended complaint are considered dismissed.** All amended complaints are subject to screening under the Prison Litigation Reform Act; screening your amendment will take additional processing time.

10. Exhibits. You should not submit exhibits with the complaint or amended complaint. Instead, the relevant information should be paraphrased. You should keep the exhibits to use to support or oppose a motion to dismiss, a motion for summary judgment, or at trial.

11. Letters and Motions. It is generally inappropriate to write a letter to any judge or the staff of any judge. The only appropriate way to communicate with the Court is by filing a written pleading or motion.

12. Completing the Civil Rights Complaint Form.

HEADING:

1. Your Name. Print your name, prison or inmate number, and institutional mailing address on the lines provided.
2. Defendants. If there are **four or fewer** defendants, print the name of each. If you name **more than four** defendants, print the name of the first defendant on the first line, write the words “and others” on the second line, and attach an additional page listing the names of **all** of the defendants. Insert the additional page after page 1 and number it “1-A” at the bottom.
3. Jury Demand. If you want a jury trial, you must write “JURY TRIAL DEMANDED” in the space below “CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT BY A PRISONER.” Failure to do so may result in the loss of the right to a jury trial. A jury trial is not available if you are seeking only injunctive relief.

Part A. JURISDICTION:

1. Nature of Suit. Mark whether you are filing the complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for state, county, or city defendants; “Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Narcotics Agents” for federal defendants; or “other.” If you mark “other,” identify the source of that authority.
2. Location. Identify the institution and city where the alleged violation of your rights occurred.
3. Defendants. Print all of the requested information about each of the defendants in the spaces provided. If you are naming more than four defendants, you must provide the necessary information about each additional defendant on separate pages labeled “2-A,” “2-B,” etc., at the bottom. Insert the additional page(s) immediately behind page 2.

Part B. PREVIOUS LAWSUITS:

You must identify any other lawsuit you have filed in either state or federal court while you were a prisoner. Print all of the requested information about each lawsuit in the spaces provided. If you have filed more than three lawsuits, you must provide the necessary information about each additional lawsuit on a separate page. Label the page(s) as “2-A,” “2-B,” etc., at the bottom of the page and insert the additional page(s) immediately behind page 2.

Part C. CAUSE OF ACTION:

You must identify what rights each defendant violated. The form provides space to allege three separate counts (**one violation per count**). If you are alleging more than three counts, you must provide the necessary information about each additional count on a separate page. Number the additional pages “5-A,” “5-B,” etc., and insert them immediately behind page 5. Remember that you are limited to a total of fifteen additional pages.

1. Counts. You must identify which civil right was violated. **You may allege the violation of only one civil right per count.**

2. Issue Involved. Check the box that most closely identifies the issue involved in your claim. **You may check only one box per count.** If you check the box marked “Other,” you must identify the specific issue involved.

3. Supporting Facts. After you have identified which civil right was violated, you must state the supporting facts. Be as specific as possible. You must state what each individual defendant did to violate your rights. If there is more than one defendant, you must identify which defendant did what act. You also should state the date(s) on which the act(s) occurred, if possible.

4. Injury. State precisely how you were injured by the alleged violation of your rights.

5. Administrative Remedies. You must exhaust any available administrative remedies before you file a civil rights complaint. See 42 U.S.C. § 1997e. Consequently, you should disclose whether you have exhausted the inmate grievance procedures or administrative appeals for each count in your complaint. If the grievance procedures were not available for any of your counts, fully explain why on the lines provided.

Part D. REQUEST FOR RELIEF:

Print the relief you are seeking in the space provided.

SIGNATURE:

You must sign your name and print the date you signed the complaint. Failure to sign the complaint will delay the processing of your action. Unless you are an attorney, you may not bring an action on behalf of anyone but yourself.

FINAL NOTE

You should follow these instructions carefully. Failure to do so may result in your complaint being stricken or dismissed. All questions must be answered concisely in the proper space on the form. If you need more space, you may attach no more than fifteen additional pages. But the form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. If you attach additional pages, be sure to identify which section of the complaint is being continued and number the pages.

Name and Prisoner/Booking Number

Place of Confinement

Mailing Address

City, State, Zip Code

(Failure to notify the Court of your change of address may result in dismissal of this action.)

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

(Full Name of Plaintiff) Plaintiff,

vs.

CASE NO. _____
(To be supplied by the Clerk)

(1) _____
(Full Name of Defendant)

(2) _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

Defendant(s).

☐ Check if there are additional Defendants and attach page 1-A listing them.

**CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT
BY A PRISONER**

- ☐ Original Complaint
☐ First Amended Complaint
☐ Second Amended Complaint

A. JURISDICTION

1. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to:

- ☐ 28 U.S.C. § 1343(a); 42 U.S.C. § 1983
☐ 28 U.S.C. § 1331; Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Narcotics Agents, 403 U.S. 388 (1971).
☐ Other: _____

2. Institution/city where violation occurred: _____

B. DEFENDANTS

1. Name of first Defendant: _____. The first Defendant is employed as:
_____ at _____.
(Position and Title) (Institution)
2. Name of second Defendant: _____. The second Defendant is employed as:
_____ at _____.
(Position and Title) (Institution)
3. Name of third Defendant: _____. The third Defendant is employed as:
_____ at _____.
(Position and Title) (Institution)
4. Name of fourth Defendant: _____. The fourth Defendant is employed as:
_____ at _____.
(Position and Title) (Institution)

If you name more than four Defendants, answer the questions listed above for each additional Defendant on a separate page.

C. PREVIOUS LAWSUITS

1. Have you filed any other lawsuits while you were a prisoner? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. If yes, how many lawsuits have you filed? _____. Describe the previous lawsuits:
 - a. First prior lawsuit:
 1. Parties: _____ v. _____
 2. Court and case number: _____
 3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) _____
 - b. Second prior lawsuit:
 1. Parties: _____ v. _____
 2. Court and case number: _____
 3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) _____
 - c. Third prior lawsuit:
 1. Parties: _____ v. _____
 2. Court and case number: _____
 3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) _____

If you filed more than three lawsuits, answer the questions listed above for each additional lawsuit on a separate page.

D. CAUSE OF ACTION

COUNT I

1. State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated: _____

2. **Count I.** Identify the issue involved. Check **only one**. State additional issues in separate counts.
- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic necessities | <input type="checkbox"/> Mail | <input type="checkbox"/> Access to the court | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disciplinary proceedings | <input type="checkbox"/> Property | <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise of religion | <input type="checkbox"/> Retaliation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive force by an officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Threat to safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

3. **Supporting Facts.** State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count I. Describe exactly what **each Defendant** did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without citing legal authority or arguments.

4. **Injury.** State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).

- ## 5. Administrative Remedies:

- a. Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- b. Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count I? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- c. Did you appeal your request for relief on Count I to the highest level? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- d. If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you did not. _____

COUNT II

1. State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated: _____

2. **Count II.** Identify the issue involved. Check **only one**. State additional issues in separate counts.

□ Basic necessities

☐ Mail

☐ Access to the court

☐ Medical care

☐ Disciplinary proceedings

□ Property

☐ Exercise of religion

□ Retaliation

☐ Excessive force by an officer

- Threat to safety

☐ Other:

☐ Other: _____.

3. **Supporting Facts.** State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count II. Describe exactly what **each Defendant** did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without citing legal authority or arguments.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

4. **Injury.** State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).

- ## 5. Administrative Remedies.

- a. Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- b. Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count II? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- c. Did you appeal your request for relief on Count II to the highest level? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- d. If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you did not. _____

COUNT III

1. State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated: _____

2. **Count III.** Identify the issue involved. Check **only one**. State additional issues in separate counts.

□ Basic necessities

□ Mail

☐ Access to the court

☐ Medical care

☐ Disciplinary proceedings

□ Property

☐ Exercise of religion

□ Retaliation

☐ Excessive force by an officer

- Threat to safety

☐ Other: _____.

3. **Supporting Facts.** State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count III. Describe exactly what **each Defendant** did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without citing legal authority or arguments.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on its right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

4. **Injury.** State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).

- ## 5. Administrative Remedies.

- a. Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution? ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes☐ No

- b. Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count III?

☐ Yes☐ No

- c. Did you appeal your request for relief on Count III to the highest level?

☐ Yes☐ No

- d. If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you did not. _____

If you assert more than three Counts, answer the questions listed above for each additional Count on a separate page.

E. REQUEST FOR RELIEF

State the relief you are seeking:

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on _____
DATE

SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF

(Name and title of paralegal, legal assistant, or
other person who helped prepare this complaint)

(Signature of attorney, if any)

(Attorney's address & telephone number)

ADDITIONAL PAGES

All questions must be answered concisely in the proper space on the form. If you need more space, you may attach no more than fifteen additional pages. But the form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. If you attach additional pages, be sure to identify which section of the complaint is being continued and number all pages.